

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE BILL NO. 325

BY REPRESENTATIVE ARNOLD

INDIGENT DEFENSE: Increases the special cost assessed in criminal cases in each judicial district court for the district indigent defender fund

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 15:168(B)(1), relative to the judicial district indigent defender  
3 fund; to increase the special cost assessed in criminal cases in each judicial district  
4 court for the district indigent defender fund; to provide for effectiveness; and to  
5 provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 15:168(B)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

8 §168. Judicial district indigent defender fund

9 \* \* \*

10 B.(1) Every court of original criminal jurisdiction, except in the town of  
11 Jonesville, in the city of Plaquemine, and in mayors' courts in municipalities having  
12 a population of less than five thousand, shall remit the following special costs to the  
13 district indigent defender fund for the following violations, under state statute as well  
14 as under parish or municipal ordinance, except a parking violation. The sum of  
15 ~~thirty-five~~ forty-five dollars shall be assessed in cases in which a defendant is  
16 convicted after a trial, a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, or after forfeiting bond and  
17 shall be in addition to all other fines, costs, or forfeitures imposed. The court cost  
18 of forty-five dollars authorized by the provisions of this Subsection shall expire on  
19 August 1, 2014, and thereafter the court cost authorized by the provisions of this  
20 Subsection shall be thirty-five dollars. The Louisiana Public Defender Board shall  
21 provide a detailed report to the Louisiana Legislature prior to the 2014 Regular



House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill.

1. Added provision which provides that proposed law is effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.
2. Decreased the proposed law court cost amount from \$50 to \$45.
3. Added provision which requires the La. Public Defender Board to provide a report to the legislature which details how the proposed law funds were utilized.